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plans and estimates. It directed the expansion and improvement of communications enterprises, gave technical aid to them on the most important questions, introduced new techniques, and issued patents. It designated economic and technical directors for administrations and enterprises, and conducted the training of technical and economic cadres. It directed questions of organization and labor and pay norms, accomplished the selection of working cadres, and directed the growth of the Stakhanovite movement. It administered educational institutions, scientific research, and planning institutions. In agreement with other departments having communications of a specialized nature, it worked out measures for the combined operation of all means of communications of public use. It organized various services, such as savings banks, in communications institutions and enterprises in agreement with other departments. It worked out tariffs for communications services subject to confirmation by the Council of People's Commissars. It organized postal, telegraph, telephone, and radio broadcasting with foreign states on the basis of international conventions and agreements, and entered into technical agreements on communications questions with postal telegraph administrations of foreign states in instances foreseen by international agreements.

The People's Commissariat of Communications had the following administrations, divisions, and sectors.

Central Administration of Postal Communications. It administered all enterprises of postal communications through republic and oblast (krai) administrations of communications and organized a network of postal enterprises for the receipt and delivery of mail and printed materials.

Central Administration of Cable Lines. It organized and directed the construction of main and intra-oblast cable lines and maintained them in the necessary technical condition.

Central Administration of the Main Lines of Communications. It organized and directed the main USSR communications lines for telephone, telegraph, and radio, and organized the technical operation of telegraph-telephone communications.

Central Telephone Administration. It organized and directed the operations of city telephone communications, and local telephone communications in large industrial enterprises.

Central Administration of Intra-Rayon Communications. It directed all intra-rayon electric communications (lines and stations), and supervised the technical condition of lines and stations.

Central Administration of Radio Communications and Radio Broadcasting. It organized and directed the operations of radio communications and radio broadcasting, and supervised the operation of the radio system.

International Administration. It organized and directed international postal, telegraph, and telephone exchange on the basis of international conventions and agreements.

First Administration

Central Administration of Special Communications

Main Administration for Industrial Enterprises. It administered plants producing communications equipment, and large repair workshops for capital repair.

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Main Construction Administration. Through its subordinate trusts, it built telegraph-telephone, line, and cable structures, as well as communications enterprises.

Main Radio Construction Administration. Through its subordinate trusts, it built radio stations and assembled wired radio relay centers and other radio structures.

Central Administration for Radiofication. It organized the construction and operation of all technical means of radiofication.

Central Administration for the Distribution of Printed Materials. It managed the organization of the distribution of printed materials for subscription and sales.

Main Administration for Learned Institutions. It directed all learned institutions subordinate to the People's Commissariat of Communications USSR.

Central Supply Administration. It organized the material and technical supply of institutions and enterprises subordinate to the People's Commissariat of Communications.

Central Administration for Protection and Antiaircraft Defense

Technical Division. It worked out plans for the technical growth of all aspects and means of communications. It developed and introduced technical improvements and new technology, rationalized the use of equipment, reviewed and introduced the most important inventions, carried out technical propaganda, directed the improvement of the quality of production, worked out standards for branches of communications, and controlled their application and revision.

Economic Division. It worked out current and long-range plans for the operation of communications enterprises and for the growth of capital construction of enterprises and means of communications, and developed plans for work and wages.

Division of Accounting and Audit. It organized and kept a statistical account of the work of enterprises and organs of communications.

Division of Workers' Cadres and Wages. It worked out measures for the organization, technical standardization, and discipline of labor, and for the growth of socialist competition and the Stakhanovite movement. It regulated questions of labor and pay, controlled the expenditure of wage funds, administered the distribution and registration of work books, and controlled the state of these affairs for enterprises in the organizations of the People's Commissariat of Communications USSR.

Financial Division. It made up consolidated financial plans and presented them to the People's Commissar of Communications for approval. It organized and executed the financing of operations and capital construction, controlled the fulfillment of financial plans, and directed the financial work of enterprises and institutions of the People's Commissariat.

Sector of Capital Construction. It controlled the fulfillment of capital construction plans and supplied plans and estimates to constructions.

Central Bookkeeping. It controlled the observance of financial estimates by the People's Commissariat of Communications, and directed the bookkeeping, financial control, and audit of enterprises and institutions of the People's Commissariat.

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Division for the Selection of Cadres and Keeping Their Records. It selected, assigned, and kept records of leading cadres, trained them, and worked out the necessary instructions for the organization of work with the cadres in the People's Commissariat of Communications USSR and its organs.

Transport Division. It organized and directed the operations of all aspects of transportation under the Commissariat of Communications, and made up plans for railroad and water transport.

Housing Division. It administered the housing under the Commissariat of Communications, made up plans of residential construction and of the capital repair of houses, and controlled their fulfillment.

Bureau of Invention. It considered the most important inventions, presented them for the approval of the People's Commissar, administered and controlled the introduction of inventions and of technical improvements, and issued patents.

Administration for General Affairs

Legal Division

Secretariat of the People's Commissar, his deputies, and the Collegium

Arbitration Board

Reception and Bureau of Complaints

Secret and Code Division

Central Archive

Svyaz'izdat (State Publishing House for Communications Literature)

The following were organized under the People's Commissar of Communications:

Control-Inspection Group. It verified the fulfillment of decrees of the government and party, the orders of the People's Commissar of Communications USSR by administrations, divisions, and sectors of the People's Commissariat and by enterprises subordinated to the People's Commissariat.

Technical Expert Commission. It examined technical plans and estimates, and reported its conclusions.

The following component parts of the People's Commissariat of Communications USSR were established:

State Inspection of Electrical Communications. It exercised control over the operation and construction of means of communications by other people's commissariats and departments. It had its inspectors at local organs of the People's Commissariat of Communications.

Technical Council. It gave its conclusions to the People's Commissar on the most important technical questions presented by administrations for the approval of the People's Commissar, considered technical disputes between administrations, and controlled the scientific research institutes of the People's Commissariat of Communications.

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The following were the local organs of the People's Commissariat of Communications:

Authorized representatives of the People's Commissariat of Communications under the councils of people's commissars of the union republics. They were appointed and recalled by the People's Commissar of Communications USSR. They were the highest representatives of the People's Commissariat in the republics and represented it on all questions touching organs of communications. They represented the views of the People's Commissar of Communications in the highest organs of the republics on plans and questions affecting the organs of communications. They coordinated orders and instructions with union republic departments, made preliminary agreements on questions concerning organs of communications serving the republics which were related to the general plan of the economy of the republics. On the commission of the People's Commissariat of Communications USSR, they introduced plans to the highest organs of the union republics for furthering the growth and improvement of communications within the territory of the republics. They controlled the observance within the republic of all-union legislation dealing with the work of communications institutions, and orders and instructions based on it by the People's Commissariat of Communications, and appealed against activities by republic authorities which injured the interests of communications institutions. They informed the highest organs of the union republics about the activity of the People's Commissariat of Communications USSR as a whole and about the conditions of communications institutions within the territory of the republics. They directed and controlled the work of all organs of communications within the territory of the union republics. The structure of each administration of the authorized representatives of the People's Commissariat of Communications under the councils of people's commissars of the union republics was approved by the People's Commissar of Communications USSR.

Oblast (krai) administrations of communications. They administered the field of communications within the territories assigned to them.

Okrug, town, and rayon offices of communications. They carried out the operation of the means of communications, and under the general leadership of corresponding administrations of communications administered the local communications enterprises and institutions in the territory of their responsibility, except enterprises and institutions immediately subordinate to an administration of communications.

Statutes on the oblast administrations of communications and on okrug, town, and rayon offices and local enterprises of communications were approved by the People's Commissar of Communications USSR.(2)

A 1940 decree confirmed the structure of the People's Commissariat of Communications, with certain exceptions. It amalgamated the Bureau of Intervention with the Technical Division and the Archive with the Administration for General Affairs. It made no mention of the Legal Division, but cited the following three new organizations:

Division of Auxiliary Enterprises

Chief Legal Adviser

Chief Inspectorate

The decree stated that the following were under the immediate jurisdiction of the People's Commissar of Communications:

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The authorized representatives of the People's Commissariat of Communications under the councils of people's commissars of the union republics, and the republic, kray, and oblast administrations of communications.

Central Administration for Disseminating and Expediting Printed Materials. It was self-sustaining.

Svyaz'tekhzdat

Svyazproyekt Trust

Publication of the paper Sotsialisticheskaya Svyaz

Central Scientific Research Institute of Communications

The same decree liquidated the following main administrations, divisions, and supply offices of the People's Commissariat of Communications:

Main Radio Construction Administration

Main Administration for Industrial Enterprises

Administration for Construction of the Moscow-Khabarovsk Main Line

Housing Division

Division of Accounting and Audit. Its functions were transferred to the Economic Planning Division.

Technical Expert Commission

All-Union Office "Soyuztekhnabsvyaz"

Office of Supply of Construction of the Moscow-Khabarovsk Main Line

The 1940 decree reorganized the offices of supply of the construction trusts into divisions of supply, and transferred the information service from the People's Commissariat to the local soviets.

The decree confirmed the staff of the central apparatus of the People's Commissariat of Communications for 1940 at 1,444 persons, 533 of whom were in the economic organs. The staff for the economic organizations subordinate to the People's Commissariat consisted of 10,350 persons. The decree curtailed the personnel of the People's Commissariat of Communications by 7,370, of whom 630 were in organizations operating on the state budget, and 2,323 in basic enterprises.(6)

The Ministry of Communications USSR, which took the place of the People's Commissariat of Communications in 1946, directs all aspects of post, telegraph, telephone, and radio, and controls the construction and operation of all aspects of electric communications and radio broadcasting which are under jurisdiction of other departments, organizations, and citizens.(4) The ministry does not enjoy operational and supervisory powers over communications of special designation which fall under other ministries.(5)

The present Minister of Communications USSR is N. D. Psurtsev.(6) Two Deputy Ministers of Communications are Z. Topuriya (7) and B. F. Anosovich.(8)

Administrative units and other organizations identified as under the Ministry of Communications USSR in 1948 - 1952 sources, with top personnel where available, are listed below.

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Central Administration for Cable and Overhead Lines (TsULKKh -- Tsentral'noye Upravleniye Lineyno - Kabel'nogo Khozyaystva); chief, I. S. Ravich (9)

Central Administration of Radio Communications and Radio Broadcasting (TsURIR -- Tsentral'noye Upravleniye Radiosvyazi i Radioveshchaniya); deputy chief, E. E. Dobrovol'skiy (10)

Central Administration for Radiofication (TsURF -- Tsentral'noye Upravleniye Radioizkatsiy) (11)

Central Telephone Administration (TsTU -- Tsentral'noye Telefonnoye Upravleniye) (11)

Central Administration of Trunk Line Connections (TsUMS -- Tsentral'noye Upravleniye Magistral'nykh Svyazey) (11); chief, Smiryagin (8) Has a Technical Division; chief, A. N. Pergudov. (12)

Central Administration of Telegraph Communications (Tsentral'nyy Upravleniye Telegrafnoy Svyazi); chief, A. Smiryagin (17)

Central Administration for Distributing and Expediting Printed Materials (TsURP -- Tsentral'noye Upravleniye Rasprostraneniya i Ekspedirovaniya Pechati); chief, Stepanov (13)

Main Construction Administration (Glavstroysvyaz') (11)

Main Administration of Industrial Enterprises (GUPP -- Glavnoye Upravleniye Promyshlennykh Predpriyatiy) (11)

Main Administration of Mail Communications (Glavnoye Upravleniye Pochtovoy Svyazi) (13)

Main Supply Administration (Glavsnab) (11)

Main Administration of Workers' Supply (Glavurs -- Glavnoye Upravleniye Rabochego Snabzheniya) (11)

Economic Administration (Khozyaystvennoye Upravleniye) (11)

International Administration (Mezhlunarodnoye Upravleniye) (11)

Planning and Finance Administration; chief, G. Golomb (14); deputy chief, I. A. Podgorodetskiy (12)

Technical Division; chief, M. U. Polyak (12)

Department of Personnel, Labor, and Wages; chief, M. Vlasov (14)

Technical Department (14)

Bureau of Complaints of the Ministry (Byuro Zhalob Ministerstva) (11)

Main Inspectorate (Glavnaya Inspektsiya) (11)

Communications Construction Planning (Svyaz'proyekt) (15)

Technical Council of the Ministry of Communications (13)

Central Scientific Research Institute (16)

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Central Museum of Communications imeni Popov; director, G. I. Gclovin (18)

State Publishing House for Literature on Communications and Radio (Svyaz'-izdat) (18)

The local organs of the Ministry of Communications USSR are its authorized representatives under the councils of ministers of the union republics, the oblast or kray administrations of communications, and the okrug, city, and rayon offices of communications.(5)

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4. I. I. Evtikhiev and V. A. Vlasov, Administrativnoye Pravo SSSR, Moscow, 1946 p 342
5. S. S. Studenikin, V. A. Vlasov, and I. I. Evtikhiev, Sovetskoye Administrativnoye Pravo, Moscow, 1950, p 378
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